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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT
TUESDAY, JULY 5, 2005

THIS REPORT PRESENTS THE TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER THREE
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HEADLINES

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'Skinheads' From Europe to Gather in Greece Against Turkey -
Sabah
Spain Begins Talks With Separatist ETA - Sabah
Boston Globe: 2005 the Bloodiest Year for US - Aksam 7/4
Suicide Attack Kills 17 in Baghdad - Milliyet 7/4
Woody Allen: September 11 'Insignificant' - Hurriyet
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OPINION MAKERS

Erdogan: Turkey-Greece Gas Pipeline a Strategic Step Forward
- Zaman 7/4
Papadopoulos Proposes Changing the Annan Plan - Zaman 7/3
Egypt's Ambassador to Baghdad Abducted - Zaman 7/4
US Troops Kill 17 Innocent Civilians in Afghanistan - Yeni
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OSCE: Guantanamo Should be Closed - Yeni Safak
Africa Summit in Libya Aims to Pressure G-8 - Zaman
China-Kazakhstan Strategic Partnership - Cumhuriyet
Nazarbayev to Run for Kazakh Presidency Again - Radikal

BRIEFING

Erdogan Due in US: Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan departed
for the United States on Tuesday for a three-day unofficial
visit to participate as the keynote speaker in the Sun
Valley Conference in Idaho. Erdogan is also scheduled to
attend meetings of the 'World Affairs Council of Northern
California' and the 'Commonwealth Club.' He will also meet
with Turkish businessmen and other Turkish-American
representatives on July 7. Responding to press questions
before leaving for the US today, Erdogan said that Turkey's
'close ties of alliance' with the US are continuing. 'Ties
between Turkey and the US, two countries that share
universal values such as democracy, freedom, the rule of
law, and free-market economy, have acquired a stronger and
more multi-dimensional aspect since the end of the Cold
War,' Erdogan said. He also noted that Turkey attached
great importance to increasing trade with the US. Erdogan
is being accompanied by State Minister Ali Babacan, Finance
Minister Kemal Unakitan and several AKP lawmakers.

USS Mitscher Visits Turkish Port: The American destroyer
USS Mitscher hosted a reception during a port visit to the
coastal town of Marmaris in southwest Turkey, "Milliyet"
reports on Tuesday. Commander of the US Navy in Europe
Admiral Harry Ulrich and Turkey's Naval Forces Commander
General Ozden Ornek participated in the reception. Admiral
Ulrich told the Turks and Americans gathered at the
reception that he and Admiral Ornek would 'soon retire soon
to make room for the younger generation of officers, who
will see the friendship between the US and Turkey strengthen
so that our grandsons in both countries will live in peace.'
Admiral Ornek said he was aware of the 'tough mission'
carried out by US troops around the world. 'Americans
sometimes face difficulties in finding safe harbors in the
Mediterranean. All of our ports are always open to them,'
Ornek said. He added that despite the 'ups and downs' in
relations between politicians in Turkey and the United
States, relations between the navies of both countries have
always been 'excellent.' 'Good relations between our navies
contributes positively to relations between our
politicians,' Ornek stressed.

Ankara Sends Iraq Delegation to US: Turkey's special Iraq
envoy Ambassador Osman Koruturk and Foreign Ministry (MFA)

Middle East desk director Safak Gokturk traveled to the US on Monday for discussions on the Iraqi constitution process, "Radikal" reports today. The Turkish delegation will ask the Americans to ensure that Kirkuk retain a 'special status,' and that the return of Iraqis displaced by the former regime should not be exploited in favor of the Kurds. The PKK issue will also be discussed. If the Turkish delegation returns with positive impressions, Ankara will send military and intelligence experts to the US for further discussions on Iraq, according to "Radikal."

US Armenian Lobby's Initiative to Reopen Turkey-Armeni Border: A bill drafted by Congressman Adam Schiff (D) calls on the US Government to put pressure on Turkey to open its border crossing with Armenia, Monday's "Zaman" reports. The draft bill claimed that keeping the border closed amounted to a violation of international standards, and stressed that it increased the transport cost of goods imported by Armenia by 30-35 percent. Another Democrat, Frank Pallone, claimed that he had received assurances from committee chairman Henry Hyde (R) that the draft will be discussed at a sub-committee meeting of the House Foreign Relations Committee in July.

Murdoch Wants to Bring Fox-TV to Turkey: International media barons have been waiting for changes to Turkish radio and television regulations before making investments in Turkey, Tuesday's "Aksam" reports. The paper claims that Rupert Murdoch will discuss with PM Erdogan at the Sun Valley Conference his intention of bringing Fox-TV to Turkey, and will urge Erdogan to change legislation restricting foreign ownership of Turkish media. Current laws stipulate that foreign media investors are allowed to acquire a maximum of 25 percent of Turkish media concerns.

Moscow Ready to Mediate Between Ankara, Yerevan: Russian Ambassador Petr Stegny told Tuesday's "Yeni Safak" that Moscow is ready to mediate between Ankara and Yerevan to achieve a settlement of their long-standing dispute. Stegny said that historical issues should be discussed by historians and should not be politicized. "Yeni Safak" deems Stegny's remarks important, as he is an historian who has studied Ottoman history.

Buyukanit Lashes Out at Europe for backing PKK: Dailies quote Land Forces Commander General Yasar Buyukanit as telling Turkey's Defense and Aviation Magazine that demands put forth by the PKK under the guise of human rights in parallel with its armed activities in the southeast threaten Turkey's territorial integrity. 'Unfortunately, some circles in Turkey and some EU member countries have not reacted adequately to such demands. On the contrary, they are almost supporting them,' Buyukanit said. Buyukanit emphasized that the PKK has benefited from the turbulence in northern Iraq, where it has found political support. Buyukanit claimed that the PKK has been able to find shelter, weapons, ammunition, training, and medical treatment through aid it receives from European countries.

Turkey-Greece Gas Pipeline Construction Kicked Off: The prime ministers of Greece and Turkey met at their countries' common border on Sunday to inaugurate the construction of a natural gas pipeline that will link the two neighbors, Monday papers report. The pipeline will carry Caspian Sea natural gas to Italy through Turkey and Greece. The two leaders were welcomed warmly on both sides of the border. During the inauguration ceremony on the Greek side of the border, Karamanlis underlined the project's geopolitical importance, and stressed that the Greek and Turkish peoples can cooperate as neighbors. Erdogan said the inauguration marked an 'historic' moment, and that it would help dissolve rumors regarding a downturn in relations between the two countries. Karamanlis reportedly accepted an invitation by Erdogan to visit Turkey before October 3. It would be the first official visit by a Greek Foreign Minister to Turkey in 46 years.

Far-Right Festival in Greece: Right-wing extremists are planning a 'festival' in Greece to protest against Turkey's EU candidacy, Turkish papers reported on Tuesday. Fascist political parties such as the National Democratic Party (Germany), Forza Nuova (Italy), La Falange (Spain), and Golden Dawn (Greece) are to attend the gathering in the Greek city of Meligala from September 16-18. The Jewish community in Greece is alarmed by the gathering, and has called on the government to block the meetings. The Greek government said it cannot restrict a peaceful meeting.

Suicide Bomber Killed in Ankara: A suicide bomber who tried to enter the Justice Ministry on Friday was killed by police, weekend papers report. The bomber, identified later as Eyup Beyaz, a member of the outlawed leftist group DHKP-C, was unable to detonate the explosives strapped to his body after he was detected by a security scanner at the entrance to the ministry. Police shot Beyaz dead when he attempted to escape and detonate the bomb. Beyaz had been

sought by police for planning a suicide attack during the wedding of Prime Minister Erdogan's son in August 2003, and for plotting the assassination of Justice Minister Cemil Cicek.

Train Bomb Blast Caused by PKK Kills Five in Turkey: Five railroad security guards were killed and 15 wounded on Saturday when a mine derailed a postal train in eastern Turkey, weekend papers report. The attack was followed by a second attack against another train that was bringing assistance to the victims. The PKK claimed responsibility for the bomb attacks. Papers report that Damascus condemned the killings, the first such condemnation by the Syrian regime against a PKK attack.

French Ambassador Condemns Terrorist Killings in SE Turkey: French Ambassador Paul Paudade said during a visit to Turkey's mainly Kurdish Diyarbakir province that growing terror in the Southeast is damaging Turkey's image during the EU entry process, Tuesday papers report. Paudade met Diyarbakir mayor Osman Baydemir, and condemned last week's mine blast that derailed a passenger train and killed five security officials in the eastern province of Bingol. "The killers should not be left unpunished," the ambassador said.

Gul to Join Commemoration of Srebrenica Killings: Foreign Minister Abdullah Gul will participate in an international ceremony to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the mass killings of Bosnian Muslims by Serbian troops in Srebrenica in July 1995, Tuesday's "Zaman" reports. British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw will also attend the ceremony,

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representing the European Union as its term president. Bosnian women will walk the 130 km from Sarajevo to Srebrenica in memory of the 8,000 Bosnians killed in the massacre. A battery factory in the region where the Bosnians were killed will be turned into a museum to commemorate the event.

Parliament Adopts Bill on Security Wiretapping: The Turkish parliament approved a bill allowing the Turkish Intelligence Organization (MIT), the police, and the jandarma to tap telephones on a written order by their superiors. The police and jandarma may listen to and record any telephone and electronic communications of suspected terrorists, drug-traffickers, or members of organized criminal groups. The monitoring may only be carried out with a warrant issued by a judge or by the written consent of the head of police intelligence, the jandarma commander, the MIT undersecretary, or an authorized official when swift action is necessary. The monitoring will be conducted from a single center to be set up by the prime minister, who will be responsible for the supervision of intercept operations. Unauthorized monitoring will be subject to prison sentences of up to three years.

Homeless Children, Forced Child Labor in Istanbul: Thirty-five percent of children living on Istanbul's streets are drug addicts, while 12 percent of them are addicted to heroin or pills, the leftist/intellectual "Birgun" reported on Tuesday. The majority of homeless children are from families who migrated from the mainly Kurdish southeastern and eastern Turkey, according to a survey conducted by the Istanbul Governor's office, social aid institutions, and police among 665 homeless children in the city. The survey also showed that 8,944 children were forced into labor in Istanbul, and 296 young girls were sexually abused.

EDITORIAL OPINION: G-8 Summit

"It's Time for the Supers to Talk"
Sami Kohen wrote in the mass appeal "Milliyet" (7/5): "The Live 8 event provided a platform to raise public awareness about the need to aid African countries. This event will push G-8 leaders to think about taking some steps on this issue. In fact, sending money is only one of many approaches to ending the tragic destiny of black Africa. The cancellation of African debt, improved terms for bilateral trade, and projects to address the immediate needs of Africans are some other steps that could be taken. In fact, the host of the G-8 summit, Tony Blair, has prepared a proposal along these lines. But other leaders, including President Bush, obviously have some reservations. In the end it is all about how much the rich states are prepared to spend on the African continent. But when we talk about rich states, we should bear in mind that all of the potential sources of assistance are not in the G-8. What about the oil-rich states? How can we explain the fact that they have kept their distance from this issue?"

"The G-8 summit will not produce anything"
Omer Madra commented in the leftist "Birgun" (7/5): "The G-8 summit convenes with two major agenda items: poverty in Africa, and global warming. Yet it would be too much to

hope that the summit will provide solutions to these issues. Even before the meeting, there is already a growing speculation about disagreement in both areas. Most likely, the G-8 summit will conclude with nothing but a final communique filled with diplomatic niceties but lacking any concrete details. Unfortunately, the areas of disagreement are on vital questions such as the cancellation of African debt and an increase in aid to the African continent. As far as global warming is concerned, the G-8 summit will not go beyond stating the obvious - the globe is heating up."

"The Kyoto Protocol, Climate Change, and the Floods"
Ismail Kapan commented in the conservative "Turkiye" (7/5):
"President Bush clearly has clearly stated that his participation in the G-8 summit is intended neither to support the Tony Blair's campaign to help Africa, nor to sign the Kyoto protocol. He is determined to defend his country's interests. With such remarks, Bush has indicated that American interests come ahead of hunger and poverty in Africa. His unwillingness to sign the Kyoto protocol stems from his belief that the treaty would damage the American economy. But while Bush makes such comments, the world climate continues to change in a negative direction. The US is already at the top of the list of world polluters, producing 36 percent of the world's greenhouse gases. No sound solution to the climate change problem can be found unless the US supports global measures. Every region in the world is suffering from the negative effects of climate change. Some regions suffer from excessive heat, others are experiencing drought and floods. Let's see how long this will continue, and when the US will agree to sign Kyoto. It doesn't seem likely that this will happen in the near future."

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